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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Organization of the Karhatalom

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1. The Karhatalom (literally: Force of Arms, the former 'blue' AVH) units form the internal tactical branch of the Hungarian Security Services. In 1957 there was a reorganization whereby these units were removed from the control of the local county police headquarters and placed directly subordinate to a new National Karhatalom Command located in the Ministry of Defense building on Marko utca, Budapest. These units are uniformed, housed in barracks and organized on a military basis and are distinct from the Investigations Section (Nyomozozsztaly) of the Police, which handle other functions of the security services. (See Sketch One)
2. The functions of the Karhatalom units are as follows:
 - a. Searching for and arresting enemy agents and saboteurs;
 - b. Searching for and seizure of illegal weapons, stores of ammunition, and enemy propaganda material;
 - c. Guarding property important to the economic welfare of the nation;
 - d. Preventing or dispersing of demonstrations inimical to the party or government; searching for and arresting ring leaders and instigators;
 - e. Safeguarding the implementation of governmental decrees.

Examples of the type of assignments a Karhatalom unit might be assigned were given as follows:

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Enforcing a civilian curfew, assisting in the nationalization of a farm area, guarding the railroad or street during trips by government officials, guarding the provincial radio stations on national holidays, supporting a police raid or round-up. In actual practice Karhatalom units do not search out and arrest enemy agents, etc., but support the political criminal section (sic) of the local police in such instances.

3. Since March 1958 the commander of the Karhatalom has been Colonel Miklos ORBAN

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He attended a Soviet military academy at some time. In 1956 he was a border guard officer and from 1956 to 1958 was commander of the governmental body guards. The head of the personnel section is Lt. Col. Jozsef PRIESZOR. The following sections of the National Karhatalom Command have been identified:

- a. Training Section (Kikepzési Osztaly)
 - b. Supply Section (Hadtap Parancsnoksag)
 - c. Personnel Section (Szemelyzeti Osztaly)
 - d. Political Training Section (Politikai Nevelo Osztaly)
 - e. Operations Section (Hadmuveleti Osztaly)
 - f. Counter-intelligence Officer (Elharito Tiszt)
4. In 1959 there were Karhatalom units in the following places:
- a. Budapest III, in the vicinity of the Arpad bridge, a guard regiment.
 - b. Budapest IX, in the Bajcsy Zsilinszky Barracks, a revolutionary regiment.
 - c. Debrecen, a regiment
 - d. Győr, an independent battalion
 - e. Miskolc, a regiment
 - f. Pecs, a regiment
 - g. Szeged, a regiment
 - h. Szombathely, a regiment

In the fall of 1960 there was allegedly a Karhatalom unit housed in the police barracks in Budapest VIII, in the block between Mosonyi, Festetics Gyorgy, Kerepesi and Lovasar streets (i.e. near the East Railroad Station).

Karhatalom Regiment in Pecs

5. The Karhatalom regiment in Pecs was designated as an independent battalion until the fall of 1957 when it was elevated to regimental status. The regiment consists of a headquarters battalion, six infantry companies, one anti-tank platoon, one engineer platoon, one communications platoon and one transportation (or support) platoon. In 1959 the units were housed as follows:
- a). The headquarters battalion, the anti-tank platoon, the engineer platoon, the communications platoon and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Companies were in the regimental barracks in the block between Zsanko Istvan, Legszeszgyar, Liszt F. Rozsa F. streets in Pecs (See Sketch Two).

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- b). The transportation company and the 4th Company were in the old Batthyany barracks on the block between Somogyi G., Legszeszgyar, Batthyany and Rozsa F. streets in Pecs (see Sketch Three).
 - c). The 5th Company was stationed in Kovagoszallós, district Baranya.
 - d). The 6th Company was stationed in Lovaszi, district Zala.
6. Regimental headquarters. The regimental headquarters of the unit in Pecs consisted of the following sections:
- a). Command: commanding officer (in 1959 Major KOVARI, Jozsef), executive officer (in 1959 Captain PESO Lajos)
 - b). Political and educational section: political officer, party secretary, KISZ secretary, instruction officers, cultural officer
 - c). Counter-intelligence section: two officers who wore civilian clothes
 - d). Operations section: three officers (plans and tactical training)
 - e). Training section: four officers (military training, target practice and sports)
 - f). Personnel section: two officers
 - g). Investigations section: a liaison officer to the local investigations section of the Pecs district police headquarters
 - h). Code group: two non-commissioned officers
 - i). Support section: a commander, three supply officers, a paymaster, a doctor, a medical technician, a building administrative officer
7. Six Infantry Companies: There are six companies, each consisting of about 100 men in the Pecs Karhatalom regiment. Each company has several platoons; the fourth platoon being the machine gun platoon, armed with two Soviet 7.62 caliber heavy machine guns. The 5th Company stationed in Kovagoszallós was used for guarding the uranium mines in the Mecsek mountains and for guarding rail transports of uranium to the Soviet border at Zahony. There were usually two or three shipments a week which were guarded by a unit of one non-commissioned officer and ten men. The 6th Company was in Lovaszi Zala, to guard the oil fields.
8. Special Platoons. In addition to the six companies there were several independent platoons assigned to the Pecs Karhatalom Regiment:
- a. Communication platoon with two sub-sections: one for radio communication and one for field telephone communication. There were several portable radio units of Soviet origin with the designation R - 20 which had a transmission range of between 50 and 60 kilometers. In addition there was a stationary unit at the regimental headquarters for direct communication with the Karhatalom Command in Budapest. There was a special vehicle on which this unit could be mounted. Strength 25 - 30 men.
 - b. Engineer platoon: this platoon is especially trained in laying mines, constructing road barriers and in the building of small bridges; in the summer of 1959 it was issued a Geiger counter. Strength 25 - 30 men.

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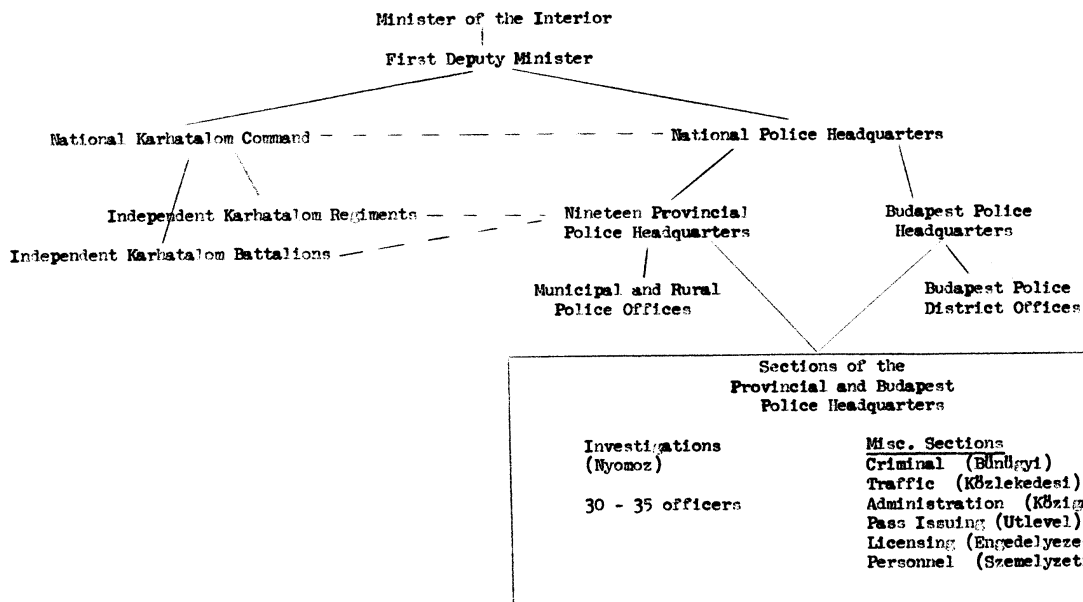
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- c. Anti-tank platoon: this platoon had eight Soviet 45 mm. anti-tank guns; each gun had six men assigned to it.
- d. Transportation platoon: the platoon had the following vehicles: one sedan (Pobieda) for the regimental commander, two jeep-like vehicles, 35 Csepel trucks, and 8 motorcycles with sidecars.
9. Arms. All of the Karhatalom soldiers are issued M 48 pistols; line officers and non-commissioned officers also have TT pistols. M 48 machine guns are stocked for the Karhatalom units.
10. Training Program. There has been no regular officer training since 1957, although there is periodic target practice. In March 1958 the first enlisted recruits arrived in the Karhatalom units after a three month's training program in Pertod or Petervasara. Some of the personnel at Pecs have been assigned on occasion to Petervasara to assist in the training program there. The recruits are regular two-year draftees who have been assigned to Karhatalom units by the mobilization centers on the recommendation of party organizations. The training consists of individual and unit instruction and later in platoon, company and regimental strength.
11. Soviet Advisers. There are no Soviet advisers assigned to Karhatalom regiments.
12. Political Affiliation. Between 90 and 95 percent of the officers of the Karhatalom units are members of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' (Communist) party and about 60 - 65 percent are former AVH members. All of the enlisted men are members of the KISZ and come from Communist-oriented families.
13. Pay and Allowances. Recruits received 180 forints salary a month as well as 60 forints a month extra bonus for hazardous duty. The salary for a first lieutenant with a family was 2,560 forints a month. Company commanders received between 600 and 700 forints a month over and above their grade pay.
14. Identification. Officers of the Karhatalom carried the same type of identification as the police.

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ORGANIZATION OF THE HUNGARIAN SECURITY SERVICES



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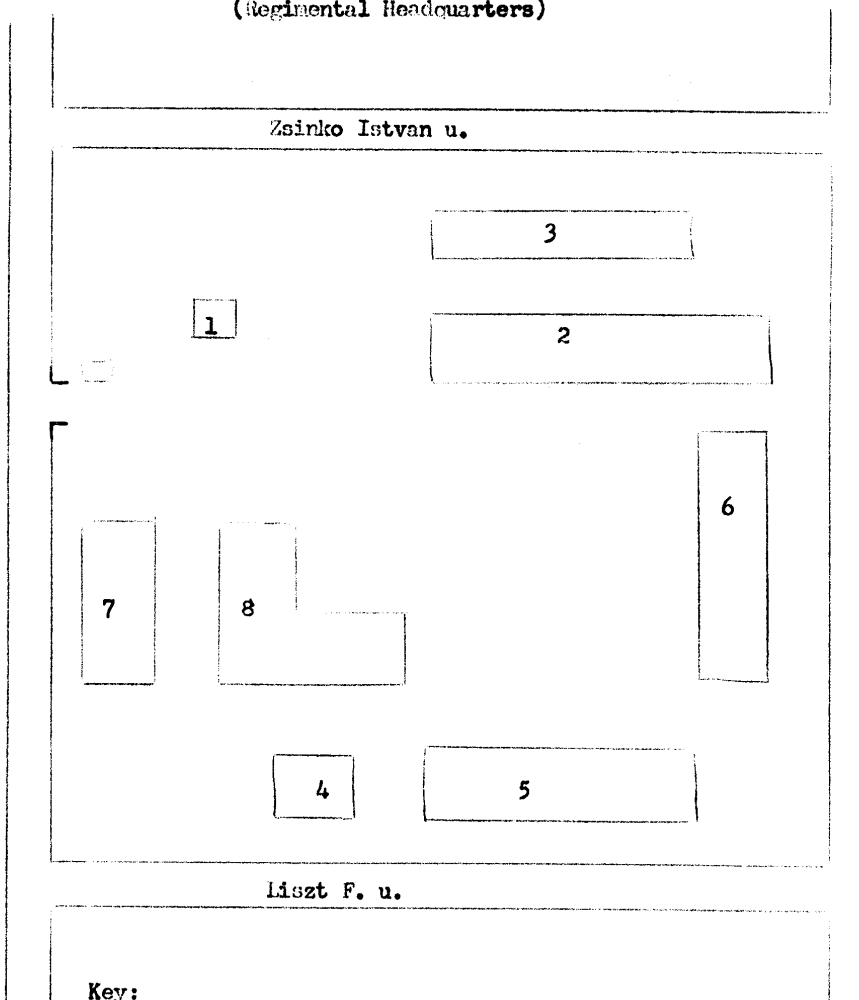
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Sketch Two

**Kerhatalom Barracks in Pecs
(Regimental Headquarters)**



Key:

- 1 - about 12m x 8m, two stories, guard building, stockade
- 2 - about 45m x 15m, two stories, barracks for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Companies and the anti-tank platoon
- 3 - about 30m x 10m, one story, storage room and workshop
- 4 - about 12m x 8m, two stories, storage of clothes, arms and ammunition
- 5 - about 35m x 10m, two stories, barracks for the engineer platoon, officer's club, cultural center and lecture rooms
- 6 - about 40m x 15m, two stories, regimental headquarters
- 7 - about 25m x 12m, two stories, mobilization headquarters for Pecs District
- 8 - L-shaped building, two stories, communications platoon, kitchen and workshops

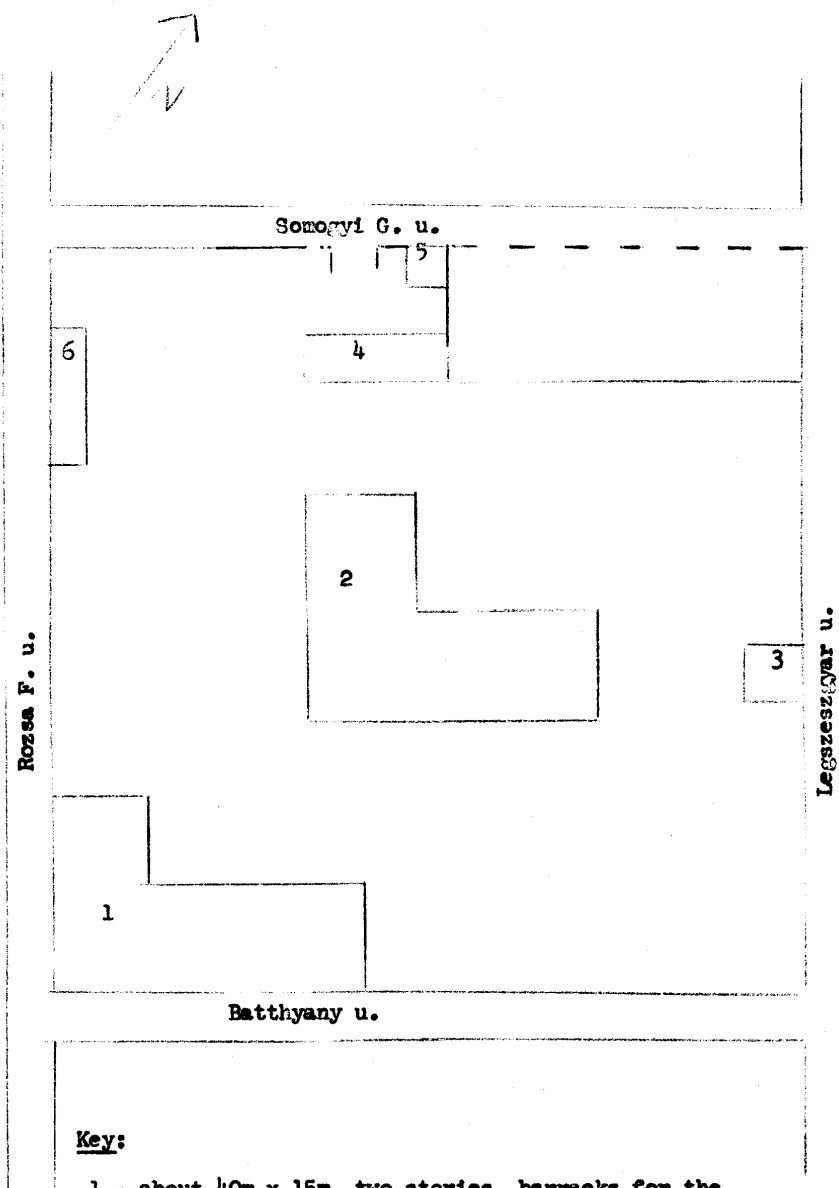
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ATTACH TABLE

Karhatalom Barracks (Batthany Barracks)
in Pecs



- 1 - about 40m x 15m, two stories, barracks for the 4th Company and the support company
- 2 - about 35m x 15m, two stories, kitchen, cultural center
- 3 - about 15m x 10m, one story, officer billets
- 4 - about 20m x 10m, garage
- 5 - guard house
- 6 - about 25m x 12m, one story, vehicle repair shop

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